**Writing/Speaking Skills**:

* paraphrase
* write to interpret and apply information
* write to discover concepts and relationships

**Name**: Desiree Cossette **Subject Area:**  Social Studies

**Date**:July 22, 2010  **Grade Level:**  12

**Time Required:**  1 period

**Description**: Students will learn the definition of a PPF and how to draw the graph. Students will then work on an activity where they have to predict what will happen to the PPF given various scenarios. Students will read the textbook using interact notes. We will then discuss the parts they are uncertain about and apply the information from the textbook to PPF problems.

**Essential Questions**:

* What is a production possibilities frontier?
* What are the underlying assumptions of a PPF?
* How are a PPF and scarcity related?
* What factors will cause the PPF to shift?

**Standards**:

* ELA 1, 3, and 4
* Social Studies 4

**Reading Skills**:

* set a purpose
* question the text
* draw inferences
* make connections
* synthesize information

**Thinking Skills**:

* identify and describe
* summarize
* predict
* analyze
* apply concepts to new situations

**Title:** Production Possibilities Frontier Homework

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Objectives:  *At the end of the lesson, students will be able to…* | Assessments:*I will know they can do this because they will…* |
| 1. explain the concept of a PPF and its underlying assumptions | 1. complete the introductory activity and include the information on their insert notes. |
| 2. analyze the effects of situations on the PPF | 2. complete several PPF problems in their post reading activity |
| 3. explain the relationship between scarcity and the PPF | 3. include the connection in their insert notes and class review of homework |

## Pre-Reading

**Procedure before Reading**:

1. provide students with definition of PPF

2. give students several scenarios and ask them to predict what effect they will have on the PPF

**During Reading**

**Procedure while Reading**:

1. read textbook and use insert notes on the following topics

* explain why the slope of the PPF is downward sloping, concave to the origin, and equal to the opportunity cost
* principle of increasing opportunity costs
* underlying assumptions of the PPF
* definition of efficiency
* causes of inefficiency
* three coordination tasks (also known as the three economic questions)
* characteristics of traditional, market and command economic systems

## Post-Reading

**Procedure after Reading:**

1. review what they were uncertain about in their notes through class discussion

2. review the problems from the day before to see how accurate they were

3. complete several PPF problems based on information from the text

**Learning Styles:** auditory, visual, linguistic, logical-mathematical

**Materials**:

* introductory activity
* textbook
* PPF problems

\*Please attach all student handouts

Production Possibilities Frontier

Introductory Activity

A production possibilities frontier (PPF) is a curve that shows the various combinations of goods that a society is capable of producing at a given time when all resources are fully and efficiently employed and technology and the supply of resources are fixed.

Draw a PPF in the space below. Put consumer goods on the y-axis and capital goods on the x-axis.

Label the effect of each of the following situations on your diagram.

1. The Great Recession has led to an unemployment of over 10%.
2. During the height of the Vietnam War inflation was over 10%.
3. A series of terrorist attacks have destroyed several major airports which serve over half of the U.S. population.
4. Scientists develop a cheap, practical solar technology that businesses and consumers can easily adopt.
5. Consumers prefer consumer goods over capital goods.

PPF Problems

Draw a PPF for computers (on the vertical axis) and corn (on the horizontal axis) and show the appropriate shift for each of the following.

1. an increase in population
2. an improvement in technology applicable to corn production only
3. increased literacy levels for all workers
4. the depletion of nonrenewable resources used in the production of both goods
5. increased consumer demand for computers
6. a lower cost of resources used to manufacture computers

**Challenge**

Draw a PPF with Good B on the vertical axis and Good A on the horizontal axis.

1. Draw a PPF showing increasing opportunity costs per unit of Good B.
2. Draw a PPF showing 0 opportunity cost per unit of Good B.
3. Draw a PPF showing constant opportunity cost per unit of Good B.